

**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to cancel the current claims and replace them with new claims 17-32, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean-François EVRARD et al.

By 

Nils E. Pedersen  
Registration No. 33,145  
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krp  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
October 24, 2005